News release

Power disruption at Met Office

26 October 2005

There was a small fire at the Met Office in Exeter at around 1130 today, which has significantly disrupted power supplies to a number of Met Office systems, including Operational Forecasting Systems.

The all clear was given around an hour later, but power supplies will take some time to be restored. Following this, operational systems will be brought back up in order of priority, but this is a technically complex process.

Contingency measures have been put in place to minimise the impact of the power failure and these will, we believe, ensure that customers will continue to receive an adequate service until systems are restored.

Media broadcasts are unaffected and there will be minimal impact on the forecasts for the general public.

Services to national aviation customers will be closely monitored overnight given the critical safety implications involved.

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